

Client Matter No. 80168.0317
Express Mail No.: EV331754137US
Serial No: 09/922,032

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this case. All claims have been rejected.

The specification has been amended to correct certain informalities. No new matter has been added to the specification.

Claims 1-20 were examined in a first Office Action mailed on October 7, 2003. Claims 1-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,523,036 to Hickman et al. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested in view of the Declaration Of Prior Invention Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 filed herewith.

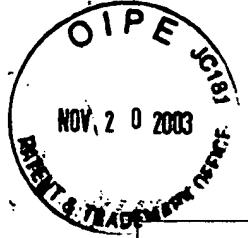
The § 102(e) rejection of claims 1-20 over Hickman et al is addressed by the enclosed Declaration Of Prior Invention Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 to which is attached a redacted Invention Disclosure Form. The Declaration, which is signed by both co-inventors William J. Young and Janice L. Platt, states that both conception and reduction to practice of the claimed driver circuit were completed prior to the August 1, 2000 filing date of Hickman et al. Accordingly, withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection based upon Hickman et al is deemed proper and respectfully requested.

In view of all of the above, Claims 1-20 are deemed to be allowable and the case in condition for allowance. No fee is believed due for this submittal. However, any fee deficiency associated with this submittal may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1123.

Respectfully submitted,

Nov. 19 , 2003


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11-21-03

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No. 09/922,032

Application of: William J. Young and Janice L. Platt

Filed: July 31, 2001

Art Unit: 2171

Examiner: To, Baoquoc N.

Attorney Docket No. P5132

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Sir:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

1. Amendment and Response Pursuant to Office Action Dated October 7, 2003;
2. Declaration of Prior Invention Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.131;
3. Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail; and
4. Return postcard

relating to the above application, were deposited as "Express Mail", Mailing Label No. EV331754137US with the United States Postal Service, addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on 20 Nov. 2003

20 November 2003
Date

Nov. 19, 2003
Date

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